

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated July 17, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 11-12 and 14-26 under 35 USC 102 as anticipated by Prabhu (US Patent 6,873,024) and rejected claims 11-26 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over Prabhu and Onishi (US Patent 5,920,142). The Examiner indicated that claims 1-10 are allowable. In response thereto, the applicants have amended claim 11. Claims 11-26 remain at issue.

The Art Rejection

Claim 11 has been amended to better clarify the present invention has having a lid which is prefabricated with integrated support regions. As used herein, the term "integrated" is defined as "unified or formed or united into a whole". This usage is consistent with the standard English definition of the term. See for example the definition of the term from an on-line dictionary located at the web address www.elook.org/dictionary, a copy of which is attached in Exhibit A.

As previously noted, Prabhu is directed to providing a transparent plate over a die. Three embodiments are described in Prabhu. None of the three embodiments, however, teach or suggest the use of a prefabricated integrated lid with support regions (i.e., a unified lid formed into a whole with the support regions). The three embodiments of Prabhu are:

(i) *depositing a bead of resin* around the periphery of the imaging circuitry 16 on the die to form a spacing structure 30. See figure 5A and column 3, lines 64-67 and column 4, lines 1-5;

(ii) *dispensing a layer of clear epoxy* over the imaging circuitry 16 on the die to form a spacing structure 32. See column 4, lines 18-21, which provide:

(iii) *applying a bead or layer of resin* of clear epoxy on the template 20 to form a spacing structure. See column 4, lines 37-39.

The embodiments of Prabhu therefore teach either the deposition, dispensing or applying of a resin onto either the die or the template placed over the die. None of the embodiments, however, teach or suggest the use of a unified lid formed as a whole with support regions. In other words, a prefabricated integrated lid with support regions. Prabhu therefore does not anticipate the claims.

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
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